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A new species of *Metolinus* from Yunnan, China (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Staphylininae: Xantholinini)

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A b s t r a c t : *Metolinus parvioculatus* nov.sp. from western Yunnan province, China, is described. Its external and male sexual characters are illustrated.

K e y w o r d s : Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Staphylininae, Xantholinini, *Metolinus*, taxonomy, new species.

Introduction

Metolinus CAMERON 1920 is distributed in the Oriental, southern East Palaearctic, and Australian regions, with a doubtful record also from the Ethiopian region. The speciose xantholinine genus currently comprises approximately 100 species, most of which are confined to the Oriental and the south of the Eastern Palaearctic region (BORDONI 2002, 2003a-c, 2005a-c, 2006; HERMAN 2001). Only five species have become known from China, four of them from Yunnan: *M. hayashii* BORDONI 2002, *M. shanicus* BORDONI 2002, *M. yunnanus* BORDONI 2002, and the widespread *M. gardneri* CAMERON 1945.

Among material of Staphylinidae recently collected in Yunnan and made available to me by Andreas Pütz, Eisenhüttenstadt, a male of an undescribed microphthalmous *Metolinus* species was discovered. The material also included two additional females probably representing undescribed species. However, since a reliable identification of *Metolinus* species is possible only based on the male sexual characters, a description would not seem appropriate.

Methods

The morphological studies were carried out using a Stemi SV 11 microscope (Zeiss Germany) and a Jenalab compound microscope (Carl Zeiss Jena). For the photographs a digital camera (Nikon Coolpix 995) was used.

Head length was measured from the anterior margin of the frons to the posterior margin of the head, elytral length at the suture from the apex of the scutellum to the posterior margin of the elytra.

***Metolinus parvioculatus* nov.sp. (Figs 1-8)**

Type material: Holotype ♂: "China: Yunnan [CH07-15], Baoshan Pref., Gaoligong Shan, 29 km ESE Tengchong, 2350 m, 24°55'37"N, 98°45'09"E, dev. decid. forest, litter, wood, fungi sifted, 1.VI.2007, leg. A. Pütz / Holotypus ♂ *Metolinus parvioculatus* sp.n. det. V. Assing 2009" (coll. A. Pütz).

Description: Body length from apex of mandibles to posterior margin of segment VII: 4.3 mm; length of forebody from apex of mandibles to posterior margin of elytra: 2.3 mm. Habitus as in Fig. 1. Coloration: head dark-brown; antennae brown; elytra and legs yellowish to yellowish-brown; remainder of body reddish-brown.

Head 1.22 times as long as wide, only very weakly dilated posteriad (Fig. 2); punctation well-defined, moderately coarse and moderately sparse; interstices in dorsal median area without, on lateral surfaces with very shallow traces of microsculpture. Eyes reduced to minute rudiments, diameter subequal to that of antennomere III (cross-section), without distinct ommatidia (Fig. 3). Antennae short and distinctly incrassate apically; combined length of antennomeres II-XI 0.7 mm; antennomeres IV-X strongly transverse, 3-4 times as wide as long; III weakly transverse (Fig. 4).

Pronotum 1.55 times as long as wide and 0.97 times as wide as head (Fig. 2); midline broadly impunctate; punctation of lateral areas slightly coarser and denser than that of head; interstices and midline without microsculpture.

Elytra 0.8 times as long as pronotum (Fig. 2); punctation weakly defined, shallow, and much finer than that of head and pronotum. Hind wings reduced.

Abdomen approximately 1.1 times as wide as elytra, widest at segment VII (Fig. 1); punctation of tergites III-V moderately dense, moderately shallow, and moderately fine, that of tergites VI-VII finer, denser, and shallower; posterior margin of tergite VII without palisade fringe.

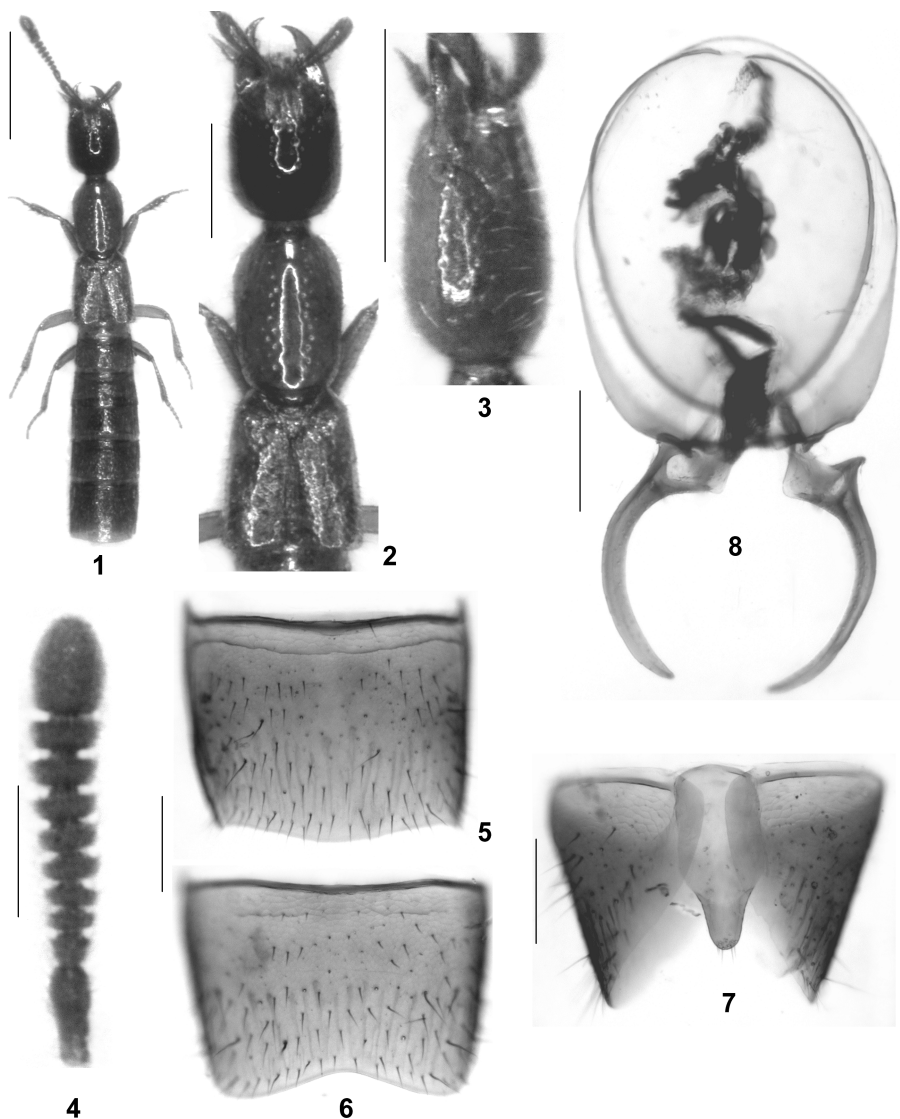
♂: posterior margin of tergite VIII convex (Fig. 5); sternite VIII posteriorly with broad and shallowly triangular excision (Fig. 6); segments IX-X as in Fig. 7; aedeagus 0.7 mm long (without parameres); internal sac with row of numerous distinctly sclerotised structures; parameres long and evenly curved (Fig. 8).

♀: unknown.

Etymology: The name (Latin, adjective: small-eyed) refers to the reduced eyes, one of the characters distinguishing this species from other congeners known from China.

Comparative notes: *Metolinus parvioculatus* is readily distinguished from all its congeners by the morphology of the aedeagus (internal structures, relatively long curved parameres), from other species known from China also by the smaller eyes, small body size, and pale coloration. For illustrations of the genitalia of other *Metolinus* species recorded from China see BORDONI (2002).

Distribution and bionomics: The type locality is situated in the southern parts of the Gaoligong Shan, some 30 km ESE of Tengchong, western Yunnan, China. The holotype was sifted from the leaf litter in a degraded deciduous forest at an altitude of 2350 m.



Figs 1-8: *Metolinus parvioculatus* nov.sp. (holotype): (1) habitus; (2) forebody; (3) head in lateral view; (4) antenna; (5) male tergite VIII; (6) male sternite VIII; (7) male segments IX-X; (8) aedeagus. Scale bars: 1: 1.0 mm; 2-3: 0.5 mm; 4-8: 0.2 mm.

Zusammenfassung

Metolinus parvioculatus nov.sp. wird aus dem Westen der Provinz Yunnan, China, beschrieben. Der Habitus und die männlichen Sexualmerkmale werden abgebildet.

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